THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) No import of machinery has been made by Western Coalfields Ltd. during the last two years.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Coal survey in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradeshh

4281. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what are the potential sites of coal deposits in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh for which survey have been made but mining has not yet begun ;

(b) what are the total estimated deposits in these sites :

(c) by when would mining begin on these sites ; and

(d) which are sites which would be offered for private sector mining ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (c) According to information available from Coal India Limited (CIL), there are 37 coal prospects in Maharashtra Coalfields where exploration has been completed and mining has not yet started. Coal reserves estimated in these prospects are of the order of 1567.84 million tonnes. Mining activity in some of these areas can be started after establishing technical feasibility and economic viability of the coal blocks depending on availability of financial resources and environmental and other clearances.

In case of coalfields of Andhra Pradesh as per available information, Geological Survey of India (GSI) is at present conducting regional exploration in parts of Kothagudem, Anisettipalli, Punukulachilaka Pasra and Khammampalli sectors. Areas like Mulug, Koyagudem, Kothagudem and Punukulachilaka indicate encouraging results for coal potentiality. Exact details of reserves in these areas have not so far been established.

(d) Lohara West, Baranj I to IV, Bander and Lohara East in Maharashtra Coalfields have been offered for development as captive source of supply of coal to a private sector company.

As of now no coal block has been identified in coalfields in Andhra Pradesh for captive mining by private sector companies.

Production and selling price of coal in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh

4282. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what is the per unit cost of production of coal and its selling price as on 1st April, 1994 in the various coal mines in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh :

(b) how does it compare with the cost of production of coal in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar coal mines :

(c) how does it compare with the cost of production of coal produced in major coal producing countries abroad ; and

(d) what is being done to reduce the cost of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) and (b) According to information furnished by coal companies the details of average unit cost of production and average selling price of coal as on 1st April, 1994 for various coal mines in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar were as under :—

State	Average cost of production (Rupees per tonne-Quick Estimates without adjustment)	Average selling price (Rupees per tonne)
Maharashtra .	361.46	424.05
Andhra Pradesh .	484.80	489.29
Madhya Pradesh.	309.72	372.06
Bihar. . .	453.16	405.08

As may be seen from above data, cost of coal production is highest in Andhra Pradesh and lowest in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Information about cost of production in major coal producing countries is classified and not available. Therefore, a comparison is not possible.

(d) The cost of production of coal in Coal India Ltd. has been kept well within the inflation rate in recent years. However, following cost control measures are being taken by the coal companies :

(i) Reduction of underutilised manpower through implementation of voluntary retirement scheme.

(ii) Reduction of equipment downtime by improvement in workshop facility and availability of spares.

(iii) Procurement of equipment conforming to international standards from globally competitive sources.

Complaints received from Electricity Boards Consumers' Association on underweight of coal wagons

4283. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total turnover of coal per annum in terms of quantity and sale price ;

(b) whether any complaints regarding under-weighment of wagons and short supply of coal have been received from the Electricity Boards and Consumers' Association ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard ;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof ; and

(f) the follow-up action being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) The total coal production and the net sales realisation in Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited for the year 1992-93 were as follows :

(Data provisional)

	Production (in million tonnes)	Net sales realisation (Rs. in crores)
Coal India Ltd. .	211.22	7560.25
Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.	22.51	881.75

(b) to (f) Complaints have been received from Electricity Boards and consumer associations regarding shortage in weight of coal supplied to them. Such complaints generally relate to rail-borne coal. Coal companies supply coal on FOR basis and provide the facility to the consumers for supervising, loading and weighment of wagons at the time of despatch. As such, coal companies are not and cannot thereafter be held responsible for the enroute alleged pilferage of coal from loaded wagons. All out efforts are being made by coal companies to ensure maximum availability of weighbridges and also to install additional weighbridges so that most of the rail-borne coal is despatched only after weighment at the loading point where sale is completed. Coal consumers including the State Electricity Boards have been encouraged to post their representatives to inspect the loading and weighment of coal at the loading/weighment points. Hence the coal companies cannot be made liable for any alleged loss in transit.

Supply of Coal to Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh

4284. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of coal produced by C.C.L., E.C.L. and B.C.C.L. during 1993-94 ;

(b) the quantity of coal out of it supplied to Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh ;

(c) the quantity of good quality of coal exported :

(d) the amount of profit earned by each of these coal producing companies during 1993-94 ;

(e) whether there is any difference in demand and supply of coal during this year ; and